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FRANK L. HOOGS.....MANAGER

TUESDAY.....SEPTEMBER 25, 1906

A Proper
Turn Down

The Democratic County convention yesterday evening did one that at least that was highly creditable, and which will have a direct tendency to raise the plane of political thought and action in this Territory. That was the decisive turn-down it gave to Jack Kalakia and his aspirations for a nomination for Deputy Sheriff of Honolulu.

Kalakia, defeated for nomination to that position by the Republican convention, and while the echo of his pledge of fealty to that party and his promise to abide by its decisions, had scarcely died away, had the effrontery to seek a nomination from the Democratic party. Though he has held public office for six years by grace of being a Republican or at least of belonging to the Republican organization, yet almost the instant he was refused a renomination by that party, with the hand that was raised in solemn promise to it to abide by its decisions, he signed his name to a Democratic precinct roll and sought nomination from a Democratic convention.

Goodness knows that the Democratic party needs recruits badly enough, but it had the self-respect and the pride to scorn such barefaced effrontery, and by a decisive vote gave notice that the party was not giving its nominations to promise-breakers, nor putting a premium on party infidelity.

Not only did the convention vindicate its own self-respect, but it did a distinct service to the politics of the Territory.

Phonetic
Spelling

The Star yesterday discussed the President's action in adopting the system of simplified spelling for federal government documents and communications, and pointed out what that meant. It was stated that the Simplified Spelling Board was not at this time attempting to reduce the spelling of the English language to a phonetic basis.

In a great many ways, the phonetic basis is the great desideratum. It will no doubt be a long time before the English language is reduced to that basis, if ever. In order to do it additional characters will have to be introduced in the alphabet of the language, for while under our present illogical system of spelling, the same sound is represented in many different ways, it is also true that there are not as many primary symbols in the alphabet as there are sounds in the language.

But we in these islands know something about a language which is spelled phonetically. Even those who do not know the Hawaiian language, but simply know the words of the language which have been engrafted into common local usage or into the English language, can appreciate in some degree the advantages of this system of spelling. With it, given the correct pronunciation of the word, the correct spelling of the word is obvious and natural. Conversely, given the correct spelling of the word, and the correct pronunciation follows by easy rule, except where accent intervenes to create uncertainty. This phonetic system devised and designed primarily for the Hawaiian language, has been adopted for and adapted to very many of the Polynesian dialects, and has been of inestimable service in reducing those languages to writing.

But probably the most important service this phonetic system of spelling, designed for the languages of the Pacific, has been,—in all probability its most permanent and lasting service—is its influence on the spelling of oriental personal and geographical names. In the transliteration of Japanese names into English, the phonetic spelling of the Hawaiian language has been adopted almost exactly. The system has not been nearly so thoroughly adopted in regard to Chinese names, yet even here it is making decisive headway. Siberian, Manchurian, Philippine, Burman, Siamese, Malayan names and in fact the names of the whole southeastern Asia region are being influenced in the same way. There can be no doubt that in the matter of geographical names, at least outside of Europe, the phonetic system is making decisive headway, and having a remarkable influence. One needs but to recall the names made familiar by war in various parts of the world within the past few years, and to compare them with the maps of a little earlier day, to see the progress made in this respect.

It may be that the lesson of the utility of the phonetic system as taught by its application to foreign geographical names, may prepare the mind of the English speaking world to even so radical a change as the one which the adoption of a truly phonetic system would involve.

The Refund
Shadow

In the original draft of the Democratic platform was a plank opposing what is attempted by the so-called refund bill in congress, and declaring that Hawaii asks for no special privileges, and only asks fair treatment at the hands of congress in the matter of appropriations.

This plank was stricken out in committee and never saw the light of the convention. The fact that it was drafted, however shows that it expressed a sentiment that is felt more or less throughout the community, and the feeling is not confined to Democrats.

It is a feeling that is prompted by the fear that if Hawaii shall by any acts or endeavors of its own, put itself outside the class of Territories which are in line for statehood, and into the class of mere possessions, it will never get back into line for statehood, and will become liable to have any kind of insular or colonial government with tariff barriers between it and its markets, thrust upon it.

Of course, to those who are opposed to local self-government, and want government of this Territory by commission or by agencies strange to us and only slightly amenable to our desire, this feeling and this fear does not appeal. But such persons are in the minority. Most of the people of this Territory want as large a share of local self-government as it is practicable to secure. And therefore the fear of doing anything to endanger our status has its effect with the great bulk of our people.

The plank was withdrawn because it was thought unwise to seem to antagonize the efforts that had been put forth in a non-partisan, or rather a bi-partisan way, to secure the refund of seventy-five per cent of the federal taxes collected in the Territory, an effort that was unsuccessful, as yet, but which seems to have been useful in securing needed appropriations for the Territory.

The withdrawal of the plank was a wise move, and yet its drafting served as a reminder of the feeling which it voiced, and that the people of the Territory are ready to stand solidly against anything that they are convinced will really jeopardize ultimate statehood, or present self-government.

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It would be interesting to know on what basis the salvage claim of the Restorer against the Manchuria is to be settled.

At least no admission fee is charged to see these Punchbowl prize fights.

Will Governor Carter feel properly subdued now that he has been denounced by the Democratic party?

The report that Delegate Kuhio has said that the Republicans would need a campaign fund of \$20,000, would indicate the elevation of the campaign to the plane of haut finance.

If more voters had registered early the Board of Registration would not have to sit so long, nor the voters stand so long in line, while the registering process goes on.

The town is placarded with announcements that there are "two kinds." But wait until the campaign speech season begins and it will be demonstrated that there are three kinds of political parties.

It was very considerate of the party of D. Kalanokalani, Sr., not to put in nomination a candidate for County Clerk against the candidate of the party of D. Kalanokalani Jr.

The Star publishes the Oahu tickets

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The Oahu

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of the three parties side by side today, for purposes of comparison.

The Kahunas at the settlement ought to support the Democratic plank favoring the permitting of other than licensed physicians to treat leprosy.

Mr. Rockefeller has been confined to his home for several days with a severe attack of indigestion. This may lead him to renew that generous offer for a new stomach.—Chicago Record-Herald.

In one respect the political conventions of 1906 are all alike—they invariably declare for the square deal, regardless of party.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

It is reported that Thomas A. Edison is an ardent lover of music. Then why did he invent the phonograph?—New York Commercial.

Smoke of a cigarette is worse than a pipe dream.
Time doesn't seem to hang heavily on the hands of a clock.Good breeding bumps the bumps when any one steps on your corn.
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